

both. Upon this we parted ill friends, and she will make no advance to me not having once been at Kinsington since ; so I came hither the day before Christmas Eve, and 't is now the last day of the old year. But the King thought it an ungenerous thing to fall out with a woman, and therefore w^ent to her and told her so, upon which she said, he should find by her behaviour, she would never give him cause. But neither upon this did she say anything to me.¹

Anne obtained from Parliament a grant of , £50,000 a year, but she was not content, and the alienation of the sisters continued. Mary attributed this to Lady Marlborough. ' Had there been none else concerned, I should not have scrupeld speaking to her [Anne] of it; but I saw plainly she was so absolutly governd by Lady Marlborough that it was to no purpose/ Mary suggests a new reason for the continuance of the breach—that the High Church party, dissatisfied with the ecclesiastical policy of the King and Queen, endeavoured to foment it for party reasons, re-garding Anne as holding sounder Church principles than Mary. ' And she herself affected to find fault with every thing [that] was done, especially to laugh at afternoon sermons, and doing in litle things contrary to what I did/ ²

There is a third reason, of which Macaulay says much and Burnet scarcely a line : the intrigues of the

Earl of Marlborough with the agents of James II. The Earl was in communication with one of them in 1691.³ Princess Anne, a mere tool in the hands of Marlborough and his wife, was induced in December 1691 to write 'a most penitential and dutyfull letter' to her father.⁴ How far Marlborough

¹ Doeblner, pp. 17-18.

² Ibid. p. 24.

³ Macaulay, V, 2117-24 (xviii) ; Life of James the Second, ii. 446-9.

⁴ Life of James, ii. 477; Original Papers Containing the Secret History of Great Britain [1660-1714], ed. James Macpherson (2 vols.; 1775), i. 241; Klopp, vi. 26.